THE KILLING OF KAMSA

from *Krishna Book,* Chapters 41 - 44

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CAST: Narrator, King Ugrasena, 3 Ministers, 3 Citizens, Kamsa, Akbar, Devaki, Vasudeva, Voice, Narada Muni, Guard, Durga, Servant, Mushtika, Chanura, Krishna, Balarama.

SCENE ONE

Ugrasena's Palace

(trumpet fanfare)

Citizen 1: My dear Maharaja Ugrasena, we have just received word from the commander-in-chief of your military phalanx in the province of Kekaya that the opposing army has decided to make an alliance with Your Eminence!

Ugrasena: Excellent! Excellent! Please send word that I command him to treat them with due respect.

Minister 1: My dear Maharaja, just see your greatness! Why, under your jurisdiction the Bhoja dynasty is completely satisfied with your governmental management.

Minister 2: Only yesterday the council of ministers was commenting that your kingdom has never been in such a healthy state!

Citizen 2: Maharaja Ugrasena! Maharaja Ugrasena! Help me! Help me!

Ugrasena: Why have you disturbed this assembly?

Citizen 2: Your son! Your son, Kamsa!

Ugrasena: My son? What heinous deeds has he perpetrated now?

Citizen 2: Maharaja, messengers report that his army is marching on Mathura, and our spies confirm that he is attempting to dethrone you!

Ugrasena: How is this possible? He has no power over me.

Citizen 2: But you don't realize he has formed alliances with the powerful demons Jarasandha, Banasura, Bhaumasura, Pralambhasura, Dhenakasu... **(Kamsa enters and stabs Citizen 2)**

Ugrasena: Kamsa, how dare you burst into this assembly and slaughter this unarmed messenger!

Kamsa: Hold your tongue, father, or I'll have it pulled out!

Ugrasena: Where have you found the audacity to speak to me, your father and your King, just as Yamaraja chastises a sinner? I'll have you thrown into jail for your uncontrolled tongue!

Kamsa: **(cynical laugh, then silence)** Father, you have no jurisdiction over me. Today, in the presence of all your ministers, I, Kamsa, shall dethrone you. Let me see your bodyguard protect you now. **(to his own men)** Take him away!

Ugrasena: Providence favors you at present, but I tell you for certain that you have not heard the last of this!

Kamsa: Enough talk, old man. Be gone with you! Take him away! **(addresses all present in a very commanding tone)** Listen to me, all of you! You should all understand that I am allied with many very powerful kings, and thus my influence and power knows no bounds! With Ugrasena firmly under my control, I am now the emperor of the Bhoja dynasty, and everyone must obey my commands! You must all pay me due respect. Failure to do so will result in your immediate death. **(to Ministers)** I want you to travel amongst all the kings within this vast tract of land and obtain for myself their undivided loyalty. If they refuse, then they will meet with the jaws of death.

Minister 1: Kamsa! Kamsa! This is outrageous!

Kamsa: You wish to speak?

Minister 1: Do you not fear the reaction for these terrible deeds? Do you think that the Yadu and Andhaka dynasties will do nothing when they hear of this outrage?

Kamsa: Enough foolish talk! **(gestures to soldier, who kills Minister 1)** Let this be a lesson to each and every one of you that anyone who dares to stand in my way will meet the same fate as this miserable fool!

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Narrator: Feeling the heavy burden of the demonic forces, mother Bhumi became aggrieved and approached Lord Brahma for solace. Being unable to mitigate the pitiful condition of the Earth, Lord Brahma and all the demigods approached the Supreme Lord Vishnu and

offered many wonderful prayers. The Lord is always the greatest well-wisher of His devotees, and thus He informed the demigods of His immanent appearance to relieve the burden of the Earth planet. Meanwhile, Kamsa, intoxicated with the power of his dominion over all the peoples of the Earth, was enjoying his newly-acquired position in lavish style.

SCENE TWO

Kamsa's Palace

Kamsa: Ha ha ha ha haaaa! Such power, such fame and such glory can never be imagined by anyone in the three worlds! My position is unchallenged, even by the demigods themselves. At last I, Kamsa, am the most powerful emperor in the history of mankind! Ha ha ha ha haaaa! No one dares to challenge me, unless he wishes to become food for scavenging vultures. **(clears a table at which he has been eating with a single sweep of his arm)** Reset my table! **(servants rush in to reset the table. Jester enters unannounced. Kamsa notices him)** Ah, Akbar, my favorite wit. Tell me are you feeling sharp today?

Akbar: Yes, Your Eminence, quite sharp.

Kamsa: Then tell me would you like to answer a hundred easy questions or a single difficult one?

Akbar: Please ask me a single difficult one, O greatest among men.

Kamsa: Very well. Which came first: the chicken or the egg?

Akbar: **(without hesitating)** The chicken, of course!

Kamsa: **(slightly amazed)** How can you be so sure?

Akbar: That, I'm afraid, is your second question, O lion among men, and we agreed that I would answer only one did we not?

Kamsa: Ha ha ha haaa! Tell me, Akbar, can anyone get the better of you? **(Akbar says nothing, but simply bows. Kamsa thinks for a moment)** Akbar, I believe I have something that will beat even you.

Akbar: Indeed, Maharaja?

Kamsa: If a member of the court asked that all the crows in my kingdom be counted, the task would be impossible, wouldn't it?

Akbar: **(thinks for a moment)** No, Your Majesty, I can give you an answer.

Kamsa: **(greatly surprised)** You can?!

Akbar: Yes. There are... **(thinks)** Now, let me see... 348,567.

Kamsa: But what if your answer is not correct?

Akbar: Well, Your Highness, if the actual number is greater, then it is obvious that the relatives of some of our crows are visiting them from neighboring districts.

Kamsa: **(practically speechless)** And if there are less?

Akbar: Then some of our crows are away visiting relatives in a neighboring district.

Kamsa: Ha ha ha haaa! Akbar, one day I will get the better of you!

Akbar: Yes, Maharaja. **(Kamsa tosses a bag of coins to the jester, who then exits. Next, Devaki enters)**

Devaki: My dear Kamsa, I am very touched by the wonderful endeavors you have made to make my wedding as opulent as those of the demigods.

Kamsa: It is my pleasure, O jewel amongst women, for you are my very dear sister. I have advised my ministers that no expense should be spared in order that people will speak of your wedding for many generations to come. Tell me, my dear sister, what do you desire as a wedding gift? Perhaps a palatial building fashioned according to your desire, or a golden chariot with horses as swift as the mind to transport you from place to place, or a thousand maidservants to serve you hand and foot. **(Devaki is overcome by his generosity and begins to weep)** Or perhaps a... **(Kamsa notices she is weeping)** My dear sister, tell me have I said something to disturb you? Are you not well?

Devaki: My dear brother, your devotion to me knows no bounds. I am truly amazed by your affection towards me!

Kamsa: Do you not know that you are very dear to me? Therefore, do not be surprised by these arrangements. **(Vasudeva enters)**

Vasudeva: My dear Kamsa, I must tell you that I am very impressed by the expert arrangements for tomorrow's wedding procession and festivities!

Kamsa: O noble Vasudeva, please hear from me the arrangements we have made for my sister's dowry. There will be 400 elephants nicely

decorated with golden garlands, 10,000 horses, 1,800 chariots and 200 very beautiful young maidservants fully decorated with ornaments.

Vasudeva: I am speechless!

Kamsa: Furthermore, I have decided that I shall control the reins of the horses while you drive along the way in the wedding procession.

Vasudeva: But, surely it is not befitting a great emperor such as yourself to perform such a lowly service!

Kamsa: I have already decided out of my own sweet will. My mind is as fixed as the northern star on the horizon.

Vasudeva: Very well, so be it.

Kamsa: Now you should go to your respective chambers and take ease, for tomorrow will be a very long and exciting day for you both.

Vasudeva: (folds hands) *Namaste.*

SCENE THREE

Fire Sacrifice

(Fire pit, *brahmanas* chanting *mantras,* citizens, Kamsa and entourage are present)

Kamsa: What a wonderful ceremony! The priests very expertly chanted the prescribed *mantras,* producing a very pleasing atmosphere. Come, let us greet the assembled crowds of citizens that have eagerly gathered outside, waiting to see you. Then afterwards we can ascend the chariot, and I shall personally guide you to your new residence. **(they walk to stage front to greet the crowds, pause to wave, etc., then move on)**

Voice: Kamsa, you are such a fool! You are driving the chariot of your sister and brother-in-law, but you don't know that the eighth child of this sister will kill you.

Kamsa: What! **(Kamsa grabs Devaki's hair and raises his sword to kill her)**

Devaki: My beloved husband, please save me!

Vasudeva: Kamsa! Kamsa! You are the most renowned monarch of the Bhoja dynasty. People praise you as the greatest warrior and valiant emperor. How is it that you are so overcome by fear and anger that you are about to kill a woman, your own sister, at this auspicious time of her marriage? Why should a powerful personality such as yourself be afraid of death? You are very intelligent, therefore you should know that death is already born along with your birth. From the very day we took our birth, we all began to die. So, why are you so suddenly disturbed? Do you not care for your high reputation? Are you not fearful of what people will say if you kill her? Please consider the overall position, which is so delicate that if you kill Devaki it will go completely against you. Besides, the danger is from her sons, not Devaki; so why kill her unnecessarily? Therefore, you are safe for the present.

Kamsa: (long pause as he calms down) But what of her sons?

Vasudeva: Who knows there may or may not be any children in the future. But, I promise, if there are any children born of her, then I shall present them to you for any necessary action.

Kamsa: You have pacified my mind for the time being, but do not think that I will forget this incident in the course of time, Vasudeva. **(Kamsa watches while they leave the stage, then Kamsa goes off in the opposite direction.**

SCENE FOUR

Kamsa's Palace

Narrator: In due course of time, true to his word, Vasudeva approached Kamsa with his first-born child.

Devaki: My dear husband, how can you ask me to part with my first-born child, knowing full well that Kamsa will kill him?

Vasudeva: But my dearest, we both know that I have given my word of honor to him, and I cannot break it under any circumstances, even if it means parting with my beloved child.

Devaki: No, no! Do we really have to do this just for the sake of honor? Are you more attached to your honor than your child?

Vasudeva: Devaki, it is beyond my control I am bound by the ill will of Providence. Now, please give me the child. **(walks across stage to Kamsa)**

Kamsa: Vasudeva! I am surprised to see you. It seems your word is as good as gold.

Vasudeva: I have brought the child to you as I promised. You may act according to your desire.

Kamsa: **(thinks for a moment)** I am very pleased with you for bringing your son to me, Vasudeva. I have considered the situation very carefully, and I have decided that you may keep this child.

Vasudeva: I can keep the child?

Kamsa: Yes. I am not in danger from this child. It is the eighth child of yours that I await, which is destined to kill me. But I shall kill him before the prophecy can be fulfilled. You may return to your palace. **(Vasudeva meets Devaki nearby)**

Vasudeva: Devaki! Devaki! He has spared the child!

Devaki: I cannot believe our good fortune! My dear Lord Krishna, thank You for favoring us!

Vasudeva: Yes, I am also struck with wonder by his behavior. **(pause he thinks)** But I feel in my heart that he may change his mind at any moment.

SCENE FIVE

Kamsa's Palace

Minister 2: Your Majesty, following your subjugation of all the kings of the Earth, no one dares to even think of raising a finger against you. Your position is the most solid within the entire Bharata-varsha. You are now the unchallenged emperor of the whole world!

Kamsa: Now, at last, everyone bows before me! I am the supreme, the most powerful emperor the world has ever known! This is what my reign will mean: it shall be a curse to be a *brahmana,* for all sacrifice to Vishnu will immediately be destroyed! I shall demand more and more taxes from the people until I have sucked the very blood from their bodies! My very name, Kamsa, shall bring terror into the hearts of all men! **(sound of *vina* and *Maha-mantra*)**

Kamsa: **(listens for a moment)** What is that celestial sound? **(Narada Muni enters)** Sri Narada Muni, what brings you to my kingdom?

Narada: My dear Kamsa. Am I correct in saying that you have spared the life of the first-born of Vasudeva and Devaki?

Kamsa: What you have heard is correct.

Narada: I am very astonished by your compassion. But I must inform you that I have just returned from the heavenly planets, and there is great jubilation about the advent of the Supreme Lord Vishnu, who will come to kill you. My dear Kamsa, in your last birth you were named Kalanemi, and Lord Vishnu killed you. Now He will incarnate again for that same purpose. Although the prophecy was that the eighth child will kill you, Lord Vishnu could disguise Himself as any of Vasudeva's sons. Many, many demigods are taking birth in the Yadu dynasty to assist the Lord in fulfilling the prophecy. Do not take any chances!

Kamsa: I am very grateful for this information. I shall reward you well. **(Narada exits)** So the demigods think they can get the better of me, do they? Ha ha ha haaa! Well, I shall certainly finish their foolish plans. Now I shall take no more chances I will kill every child of Vasudeva and Devaki. In this way, I shall destroy Vishnu, and as for the Yadu dynasty, I have already brought them under my control! What chance do they have of usurping my throne? Guards! Bring Vasudeva and Devaki here at once! **(turns to Minister 2)** You, bring shackles and chains.

SCENE SIX

Vasudeva's Palace

Vasudeva: Kamsa! What is the purpose of this intrusion?

Kamsa: Quiet! No one questions my actions I do as I please! Arrest this man and shackle him in chains. **(to Devaki)** Devaki, give me the child!

Devaki: My brother! No! no!

Kamsa: You are holding my death in your arms now give me that child! **(they struggle)** Very well, have it your way! **(Kamsa stabs the child)**

Vasudeva: Kamsa!!!

Kamsa: Keep him quiet! I want them locked in prison, watched at every moment. I must be notified whenever a child is born of them. Do you understand! Take them away!

Narrator: While Vasudeva and Devaki were in the prison house of Kamsa, he anxiously awaited the birth of their children. With the coming of each child, he ruthlessly exterminated them. When Devaki became pregnant for the seventh time, Krishna's expansion known as Ananta appeared within her womb. To ensure safety for that child, Yoga-maya transferred Him to the womb of Rohini, in the town of Gokula, under the direction of the Lord. As a result of this, it appeared that Devaki's seventh pregnancy was a miscarriage. Thereafter, the Supreme Lord Vishnu, full in six opulences, appeared in the womb of Devaki. When this had occurred, Kamsa could appreciate that her beauty had greatly increased. **(Kamsa and Minister 2 enter)**

Kamsa: **(to Minister 2)** Have you noticed, have you noticed?! My sister has never looked so wonderfully beautiful I suspect that Vishnu has now appeared within her womb!

Minister 2: Yes! For what other reason would she look so radiant and effulgent?

Kamsa: Now, it seems that Lord Vishnu has come to kill me. Oh, what is my fate? So, it is certain, then, that Vishnu has come to execute the mission of the demigods! Ah, what is to be done with Devaki?

Minister 2: Kill her! Kill her at once! Do not hesitate while you have the opportunity. He who hesitates is lost.

Kamsa: Kill her? But, even if I kill her immediately, the mission of Vishnu will not become frustrated.

Minister 2: Do not be so despondent; act quickly while the chance of destroying Vishnu is at hand!

Kamsa: But, if I kill Devaki at the present moment, Vishnu will only enforce His supreme will more vehemently! To kill Devaki now would be a most abominable act and would ruin my reputation completely. Besides, she is a woman... she is under my shelter... and she is pregnant...

Minister 2: Your considerations are trivial and completely beside the point! You should act immediately with strength and determine...

Kamsa: Enough! Leave me! I wish to be alone! **(Minister exits)** Arrgh!!! What is to be done? My mind is so disturbed I cannot think clearly! Wherever I look, I see only the form of Vishnu with His disc weapon in His hand... But why should I be disturbed by these things? If Vishnu does come, I will simply crush Him by dint of my power. **(Servant enters with meal)**

Servant: Your Majesty. I have brought your supper!

Kamsa: What!? Oh... Yes... **(moves to sit, then stops)** Wait! Wait! This food can be poisoned! **(turns and knocks tray from Servant's hand. Servant retrieves tray and exits)** Perhaps I need to rest for a while... Yes, some rest... **(moves to throne and rests)** No! I cannot even rest in peace...

SCENE SEVEN

The Prison Cell

Guard: **(runs on stage as the sound of a baby crying is heard offstage)** King Kamsa, King Kamsa! A child is born!

Kamsa: The eighth child has been born, at last! Now the cruel death of my life is born. **(he goes into the prison, sword drawn, and approaches Devaki, who is sitting frightened, holding a baby)**

Devaki: O dear brother, please do not kill my daughter! I promise this child will be your future son's wife! You are to be killed by a male child that was the omen. So please do not kill her. My dear brother, you have killed so many of my children! Please let this one live! **(Kamsa, very angry, grabs the baby out of Devaki's hands and throws it to the ground. Immediately out comes Goddess Durga)**

Durga: You rascal, how can you kill me? The child who will kill you is already born before me somewhere else within this world. Do not be so cruel to your poor sister.

Kamsa: **(very frightened)** My dear sister and brother-in-law, I have acted just like a demon by killing my own nephews. I do not know what will be the result of these acts of mine; probably I shall be sent to the hell where the killers of *brahmanas* go! My dear sister Devaki, you are so gentle and kind, please excuse me do not be aggrieved by the death of your children, which I have caused, as these things are all predestined. My dear sister and brother-in-law, kindly excuse the atrocities I have committed against you. I am very poor-hearted and you are so great-hearted; have compassion upon me and excuse me. Please take your wife Devaki and return home. **(he lets them go)**

Vasudeva: My dear Kamsa, we accept the apology for your misbehavior, which is due only to identifying with the material body. Being engaged in such activities, we forget our eternal relationship with the Supreme Lord.

Narrator: Kamsa's softness astonished his ministers. They advised him to have all newborn children killed. The eighth child of Devaki, Krishna, grew up happily in Gokula. However, during Krishna's childhood, Kamsa

sent many powerful demons such as Trinavarta, Aghasura and Pralambhasura, to kill Him, but Krishna very easily defeated them all. This caused Kamsa to increasingly worry about his own impending doom.

SCENE EIGHT

Kamsa's Palace

Minister 3: How is it humanly possible that Krishna, a mere boy, could smash the great demon Keshi, who appeared in his form of a giant horse?

Minister 2: I tried to tell you that he wouldn't be any match for Krishna we are not dealing with an ordinary person here! Can't you understand that? **(Kamsa enters, he overhears their discussion)**

Minister 3: Now you tell me!

Kamsa: Am I to understand that your plans have failed again, after you gave me so many assurances? You will pay for this with your life, you foolish wretch! **(draws sword and kills Minister 3)** Do I have to do everything myself?! Come here and listen carefully. I have a plan: I want you to arrange a wrestling match. People from different parts of the country will come to see the festival. I will arrange to bring Krishna and Balarama here; it is your personal responsibility to see that They are killed in the wrestling arena or even before is that quite clear? I also want you to again arrest Vasudeva and Devaki and throw them into prison. **(Minister 2 acknowledges)** Good! Then go immediately to make the arrangements!

(Kamsa paces back and forth across the stage very nervously, suddenly he notices his shadow. Astonished, he slowly bends down and looks at it) What? My shadow has holes in it! I'd better go home and take rest. **(he starts walking, looking over his shoulder occasionally, then he notices his footprints)** How is this possible? I am walking on muddy ground, but I cannot see my own footprints! What's more, all the trees look as if they are made of gold! **(a buzzing sound starts offstage and gradually gets louder and louder)** I'm seeing all the luminaries in the sky as double! What are these evil omens? **(high-pitched sound gets very loud; he holds his ears)** What is this buzzing sound in my ears? What is happening to me?

(Kamsa returns to stage upright and more composed. Now he is getting ready for bed. Lays out a mat and a sheet) Well, everything seems better now; I must have just been ill for a moment. **(he catches a glimpse of himself in a mirror)** AHHHH! My reflection has no head! **(jumps in bed and pulls the sheet over his head, Slowly he sits up and removes the sheet from his head)** These are all signs of certain death! My only hope is that Krishna will be killed in the wrestling arena! **(lays down to rest)**

SCENE NINE

The Wrestling Arena

Citizen 1: Do you know that Krishna and Balarama have been invited to Mathura?

Citizen 3: Yes, but I heard that Kamsa expects Them to be killed by his expert wrestlers in the arena.

Citizen 1: I've just come from the city gate. Krishna and Balarama were there, and Kamsa had arranged for a very fierce elephant to trample Them to death. But instead, Krishna dispatched the elephant to Yamaraja, just as a lion easily kills a deer!

Citizen 3: Shhh! It's the minister! It's the minister!

Minister 2: Quiet! Quiet! That's better. Your Eminence, Krishna and Balarama are making their way to the wrestling arena.

Kamsa: Excellent! Make sure that They do not escape with their lives!

Citizen 1: Look! Krishna and Balarama are approaching the arena.

Citizen 3: At last to see Them in person! They are even more beautiful than I expected!

Citizen 1: Let us go and offer these garlands that we made.

Citizen 3: Krishna! Balarama! Please, for Your safety, turn back! Kamsa plans to have You killed in the arena. The arrangement isn't even fair. We will fight on Your behalf! **(Krishna and Balarama confidently stride on)**

SCENE TEN

The Wrestling Match

(Kamsa is seated on a raised platform. There is a loud *kirtan* and everyone is shouting: *Jai Krishna and Balarama!*)

Kamsa: What is all that commotion over there?

Servant: Your nephews, Krishna and Balarama, are entering the arena. Aren't they beautiful?

Kamsa: How did they get away from my fierce killer elephant?

Servant: It was most amazing how He killed the elephant. The elephant came before Krishna like death personified, being provoked by its caretaker. The elephant suddenly rushed at Krishna and tried to catch him with its trunk, but Krishna moved behind the elephant, pulled its tail and dragged it for 25 yards. Krishna gave the elephant a strong slap and tripped it, making the elephant very angry. The elephant ran madly toward Krishna, but Krishna grabbed its trunk and pulled it down, jumped up and broke its back! Krishna killed the caretaker also.

Kamsa: Oh, this is terrible news! **(Krishna and Balarama enter)**

Krishna: O Kamsa, We have come to participate in your festivities.

Kamsa: Yes, I have wanted so long to meet with You. I would like to introduce You to the finest wrestlers in the land.

Mushtika: Ahhh! Notice my biceps and triceps, and my great overall size, enormous strength, physique and intelligence. **(he growls)** I am the famous Mushtika!!! And here is the great and powerful Chanura!!!

Chanura: (growls) We will fight with Krishna and Balarama and kill them!

Mushtika: Hmmm... These boys appear to be like thunderbolts.

Chanura: Yes, Krishna and Balarama, we have heard about You two; You are great heroes and your arms are very strong.

Mushtika: King Kamsa especially wants to see Your great skills in wrestling.

Chanura: We have heard that while tending the cows in the forest, You enjoy wrestling with your friends.

Krishna: We feel very pleased that Kamsa wants us to wrestle with you, but usually we wrestle with boys of our own age.

Balarama: Do you think that the audience would like to witness an unequal match between huge wrestlers like you, and young boys like us?

Mushtika: Ha! Krishna, we can understand that You are neither a child nor a young boy.

Chanura: You and Your elder brother, Balarama, are □transcendental□!

Mushtika: You have killed the giant elephant, Kuvalaya-pida. He was able to kill many other elephants, and You have killed him in a wonderful way. Because You are so strong, You must wrestle with the strongest of us all, Therefore, I, Mushtika, will wrestle with You.

Chanura: Yes, and I, Chanura, will wrestle with You, Balarama! **(the fight begins, and Krishna and Balarama are eventually victorious. Everyone cheers)**

Kamsa: Stop this drumming! Stop this cheering! I order you to stop! Furthermore, I order that these two sons of Vasudeva be immediately driven out of Mathura! The cowherd boys who have come with them should be plundered and all their riches taken away! Nanda Maharaja should be arrested and killed for his cunning behavior, and the rascal Vasudeva should also be killed without delay! Also, my father, Ugrasena, who has always supported my enemies against my will, should be killed! Seize them all, seize them and kill them! Arrest them! Arrest them and kill them!

(Krishna jumps on the elevated seat, Kamsa draws his sword, but Krishna knocks his crown off. Then Krishna drags Kamsa off the elevated seat and down to the ground, and straddles him. Krishna strikes Kamsa over and over and over again, then He drags the dead body about)

Balarama: Now my grandfather, Ugrasena, will assume his rightful position as the King of the Bhoja dynasty. All the citizens should be pleased to serve him. Protected by Krishna, he will be honored even by the demigods from the heavenly planets. Out of fear of Kamsa, the kings of the world were anxious and disturbed. Now they can live peacefully in Krishna Consciousness.

Krishna: My dear Vasudeva and Devaki, because I was your son, Kamsa was always causing so much trouble for you. But now you may know for certain that his tyrannical reign has been brought to an end.

Citizen 1: My dear Krishna, we want You to know that we are very happy that You have killed Kamsa, and we beseech You to take the throne.

Citizen 3: Yes, yes! Please! All of the citizens would be very happy if You became our new king!

Krishna: Thank you for your kind words, but since Kamsa had forcibly taken the kingdom from his father, Ugrasena, I therefore think it appropriate that he be restored to his throne. Please make arrangements to bring him here at once. **(Ugrasena is escorted in)** My dear Maharaja Ugrasena, we all desire that you again accept the throne of the Bhoja dynasty. It will be our pleasure to act as your servants. We will give our full cooperation to make your position more exalted and secure than that of any other king.

Ugrasena: I accept Your kind offer. With Your help, the whole kingdom will become very peaceful.

Krishna: Then let the ceremony begin! ***(kirtan)***

The End